



Quality Career Information for Informed Career Decision Making

UTAH CAREER RESOURCE NETWORK

Our mission:

Utah Career Resource Network (UCRN) supports the delivery of quality career information to students, parents, teachers, counselors, and others in order to promote informed career decision making.

GOALS

The UCRN's products and services are designed to provide students, parents, teachers, and counselors with the highest quality career information, including:

• Occupational information

Typical tasks
Skills requirements
National and state outlook
National and state earnings

• Education

Recommended high school courses to support career goals
Information on a broad range of post-secondary options including schools, military, apprenticeship, and employment
Financial aid

• Career management tools

Career assessment
Electronic planning portfolio

Our vision is to provide the quality career information that is central to the processes that facilitate informed career decisions.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

The UCRN supports the goals of the Comprehensive Guidance Program through a number of activities. Products that are developed or adapted and distributed by the UCRN include:

- Utah Choices, the state's Career Information Delivery System (CIDS), which meets the high quality standards to be recognized as a "comprehensive system" by the Association of Computer-based Systems of Career Information.
 - eChoices (Choices on the Internet).
 - Career Futures (for middle/junior high school).
 - Paws in Jobland (for elementary school).
 - The Real Game series.
 - The Student Career Guide, published in cooperation with the Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information Division.
 - The American Careers Planner, an annual publication in middle school, which assists students in identifying their strengths, interests, and goals so they can develop a high school plan that includes the courses they need to succeed.
 - Parents' guides.
 - Parents' newsletters.
 - PowerPoint™ presentations on career-related issues.
- In addition to training related to the products listed above, UCRN also sponsors training on:
- Improved Career Decision Making in a Changing World, a nationally acclaimed curriculum that supports the exploration of labor market concepts and the function of labor market information in the career decision-making process.
 - Career Development Facilitator – also a national curriculum, designed to help paraprofessionals gain the background knowledge and the skills needed to do their jobs more effectively.

FUNDING

The UCRN is part of a national network – America's Career Resource Network – established by the U.S. Department of Education using funds available under the federal Perkins Act.

Investing in career information and services at a level that ensures universal competency in making informed and considered career decisions might be the national investment strategy to enable full participation in the 21st century workplace.

– The Educational, Social and Economic Value of Informed and Considered Career Decisions, 2003

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